

with the purpose of developing the overseas mission work.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Evangelical Mission and Seminary International, as well as the Reverend Moses Yang, on the celebration of 40 years serving Morris County and people around the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES
WEILAND'S CIVIL AIR PATROL
SERVICE

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the long and committed service of Lieutenant Colonel James Weiland to the Illinois Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, CAP. It was in April 1956 that Jim joined the CAP as a cadet and through his high school years he attained the rank of cadet captain. He then served his country in the U.S. Air Force for 3 years before joining the CAP as a senior member.

During his service as a member of the Illinois Wing, Lt. Col. Weiland held several leadership positions including Group Commander, Cadet Program Development Officer Wing Director of Cadets. Prior to these challenges he served with distinction as Wing Assistant Director as well as Communications, Licensing and Radio Maintenance Officer. These challenges led to his being named CAP Communicator of the Year in 2008.

Beyond these significant accomplishments, Lt. Col. Weiland will again distinguish himself at the conclusion of the July 26, 2008, Illinois Wing Summer Encampment making this the 60th summer encampment he has attended since 1956. Since his first, Jim has missed only 1 year but served at two different encampments from 1962 through 1968. Through these many years Jim has led cadets as Encampment Commander 3 times, Deputy Commander 6 times, Financial Officer 44 times and Tactical Officer 6 times. These leadership roles have led him to eight different CAP encampment sites within the Illinois patron area. While these leadership positions were ample commitment alone, Jim also helped out with other responsibilities such as serving the encampment's communications and many administrative needs.

It is my honor, Madam Speaker, to recognize Lt. Col. Weiland's long service, unselfish dedication and hard work in support of the Civil Air Patrol and the Illinois Wing Encampment Program for nearly five decades. It can be said of this truly committed patriot, the Civil Air Patrol and many fine young cadets can all be said to have benefited tremendously from the distinguished commitment of Lt. Col. James Weiland.

IN HONOR OF CONRAD SMITH

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my friend and

constituent, the late Conrad Smith, and his contribution to both Arkansas and Missouri.

Conrad was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, the son of Arthur and Wilma Lee (Fullerton) Smith, and was the proud husband of Virginia Dell Hall, and the proud father of four children: Cathryn Orr, Art C. Smith, Julie Wideman, and Jeffery Smith.

He began preaching in the Missionary Baptist Church by age 15, and was later ordained and preached all over Arkansas.

In December 1978, he moved to House Springs, Missouri and became very active in Jefferson County, MO, community affairs. He was the minister for the Calvary Baptist Church in House Springs for almost 30 years, where he rarely missed a service, and even preached the week he died, this past June. He founded several businesses in the area, including R S Heating and Cooling, and was an auctioneer for over 20 years.

Former State Representative Harold Selby, for whom Conrad served as district coordinator, from 1999 to 2006, said that "Conrad did all the work to make other people look good."

Among the many other ways Conrad gave back to his community were by serving on the board of directors of Big River Ambulance District for almost 10 years; serving on the board of directors of Jefferson County 911 for 4 years; being a founding member and leader of the Highway MM-W Task Force for over 10 years.

Many will remember his work on the Highway Task Force. Conrad made it a mission in his life to make roads safer. He worked tirelessly with me, as his Representative in Congress on the Transportation Committee, and with others to obtain the needed funding to improve these roads for the entire community.

Conrad Smith was a leader in Jefferson County, and his legacy lives on in the hearts of his family, his community, and the people of the Highway MM-W Task Force. His legendary determination will continue to inspire us to carry on the work he started.

INTRODUCTION OF "RELIEF NOW ON THE ROAD TO RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008"

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 17, 2008

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the "Relief Now on the Road to Renewable Energy Act of 2008."

I believe this bill will provide relief now from soaring gasoline prices and also accelerate our pace down the road to alternative energy and energy independence. Few things affect American consumers like high energy prices. Higher gas prices strain the budgets of America's working families, raise the cost of goods and services, increase harvest costs for America's farmers, and negatively impact the economy and the livelihood of working Americans.

According to the latest figures from the Department of Energy, the retail cost of a gallon of gasoline breaks down as follows:

53 percent—Crude Oil.

19 percent—Refining. (This component varies from region to region due to the different formulations required in different parts of the country.)

9 percent—Marketing and Distribution.

19 percent—taxes. (This component also varies depending upon whether States have also enacted sales tax on gasoline and whether local counties and cities have levied their own gasoline excise or sales tax.)

As you can see, the single biggest factor affecting the price of gasoline is the cost of a barrel of oil; oil which largely comes from politically unstable regions of the world, such as the Persian Gulf, Nigeria and Venezuela. Unfortunately, we find ourselves so heavily dependent upon these expensive sources of oil because decade after decade Congress has established legislative and regulatory roadblocks to prevent exploration for and refining of domestic supplies of oil and natural gas.

I believe it is time to invest more now into conservation and energy efficiency. My bill, for example, includes provisions that would increase alternative energy sources and diversify the energy grid with currently available alternative energy technologies. As a nation, we waste far too much energy with inefficient engines and machines. That is why my bill provides tax incentives for companies to produce fuel efficient vehicles. In fact, it provides a \$1,000 tax credit for individuals who purchase hybrid cars produced by American corporations. I believe that as we work with the market demand, these energy-efficient changes will work to stimulate domestic economic growth.

The fact of the matter is that wind and solar power cannot bring down the cost of the gasoline we need to power our cars, trucks, planes, trains, boats and power plants while we are developing greater efficiency. The cost of gasoline is a simple economic debate, oil supply and demand. We need more supply. The answer, I believe, is to end our dependence on expensive foreign oil by developing our own domestic supplies of oil and natural gas. My bill will open up new areas for oil and gas exploration.

For example, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) holds the single largest deposit of oil in the entire United States. Its 10.4 billion barrels of oil is more than double the proven reserves of the entire State of Texas and almost half of the total proven reserves in the U.S. (22 billion barrels). Had President Clinton not vetoed ANWR energy production in 1995, the United States could be getting nearly 1.5 million barrels of oil per day from the Arctic right now.

There are also vast oil and gas deposits along our coastlines that are completely off limits to development because of government interference. In fact, the Department of the Interior (DOI) conducted a comprehensive inventory of oil and natural gas resources located off our coastlines within the last 2 years. According to the Department of the Interior there is an estimated 8.5 billion barrels of known oil reserves and 29.3 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of known natural gas reserves along our coastlines; with 82 percent of the oil and 95 percent of the gas located in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM). However, even more importantly, the Department of the Interior estimates that there are untapped resources of about 86 billion barrels (51 percent in the Gulf of Mexico) and 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas (55 percent in the Gulf of Mexico) out there.

Similarly, the U.S. has been called the Saudi Arabia of oil shale. It has been estimated that oil shale deposits in Colorado,